HUMAN EVENTS

Vol. XIV, No. 43 Saturday, October 26, 1957 Washington, D. C.

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News Section

Printed in Two Sections

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Curtain of Complacency: The story of the past seven eventful days was one of lifting the curtain of complacency, of altering the attitude of "golf-as-usual" and "let-Sherman-do-it" which had enveloped the Executive arm of the Government.

When the President last Tuesday night promised to make a series of speeches on economic and military problems — an encouraging contribution to the business climate this week — he responded to some vigorous warnings from friends in the press and elsewhere. A series of such factors gave impetus to the White House decision to drop its hitherto impassive serenity:

(1) The atmosphere among the press corps in recent weeks (particularly since "Sputnik"), could not fail to impress Ike's press attachés. It was one of impatience with the failure of the Executive to take any positive steps to regain U.S. superiority in the weapons race with Soviet Russia.

From "liberals" on the left to "reactionaries" on the right, the correspondents talked and acted as if they felt their very lives depended upon it. Certainly, what military men told them prompted their thinking. Never, since 1953, had the President's prestige among this group sunk so low.

(2) Significant of the revolt, among Ike's good friends in the press, was an editorial on October 22 (the day after the big stock market break) in the highly-respected Baltimore *Sun*. That paper, commenting on some bleak news reported in an aviation magazine (that U.S. radar had discovered the Russians firing a 1500 mile ballistic missile), solemnly pointed the finger at the President himself, as follows: "We have at the head of Government a former military man of great eminence. It has been natural to assume that in matters of defense we could therefore rest assured that every precaution was being taken to keep us abreast of the progress in weapons made by our enemies. If *Aviation Week's* account of the radar and its findings is correct, that assumption will have to be re-examined."

Not only the *Sun*, but also the Scripps-Howard and Hearst chains and the McCormick-Patterson papers, added to the prodding of the inert White House; and on the air, Sunoco's "Three-Star Extra" and Fulton Lewis, Jr., contributed to the process. These latter radio programs featured the critical reactions of Senator Styles Bridges ("Mr. Republican of the Senate") in his widely noticed piece in HUMAN EVENTS of last week, in which he urged the Administration to ignore the do-nothing element among American scientists, to tell them to stop talking politics and to go to work to recapture our weapons supremacy.

Bridges' strong utterances were all the more necessary, for the left-wing of the scientific community had already swung into immediate action again in their political role. On October 18, Dr. Eugene Rabinowitch, editor of the *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*, issued a statement urging that American scientists should hold a conference with Russian scientists "for the prevention of atomic warfare." (The character of this "Bulletin" was thoroughly exposed in a HUMAN EVENTS article by Dr. Medford Evans, entitled "Mental Behavior in the Atomic Scientists," January 8, 1955.)

Bridges' stand may well have precipitated the decision of the White House Palace Guard to announce "lifting the curtain of complacency." Filled with a wholesome respect for congressional actions, the Guard must have noted Bridges' statement: "*It is now up to the President — or if he does not — to the Congress, to begin to assume the responsibility for the direction of our scientific efforts.*" Bridges and Senator Russell (D.-Ga.), Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, had been planning a conference this week for the purpose of starting an investigation of the weapons problem.

Nor did the New Hampshire Republican Senator leave it at that. Even after the President had announced his series of speeches, Bridges, in a release to the press on October 23, denounced Administration spokesmen for dismissing the Russian earth satellite as an instrument of no consequence. He said he was "deeply disturbed" by such "grossly misleading statements" being made by White House spokesmen. "Such statements," exclaimed the senior GOP Senator, "reflect either ignorance of the facts or an attempt to confuse and mislead the American people." He emphasized that he had hoped the Soviet satellite accomplishment would "shake many of the people of this country out of the dangerous complacency which has developed with regard to the Soviet menace."

British Visit: A startling story — buzzing around the Capital — disturbed the harmonious atmosphere engendered by the meeting of British Premier Macmillan with Secretary Dulles and President Eisenhower. The story derives considerable point from the fact that Ike,

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at his conference with Macmillan this week, promised the British a share in the secrets of American weapons development and manufacture.

Last week, it was publicly announced that an "incident" had occurred in the British plutonium producing plant at Winscale, in northern England. This plant is strictly for the manufacture of weapons materials. Six square miles of the English countryside had been contaminated to the point where the milk of dairies there was unfit for human consumption. Then, it appeared, the area was extended to include 200 square miles, and all milk produced in that region was dumped. The plutonium process was shut down.

According to reliable sources in Washington, the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission (when it heard of the incident) asked the British for information and offered help. The British curtly refused to disclose anything beyond their public announcement and said, in substance: "when we need your help, we'll let you know." The AEC agent in London went to Winscale, but was refused admittance and information.

The authorities in Washington deduce, from the facts in the public announcement, that a major accident occurred at Winscale. Any confidential information we could get from the British would be precious, since no such accident has occurred so far in the U.S.

Yet, the only conclusion to be drawn from the above story is that the British (not unlike the Russians) consider information "exchange" to be a "one-way street": the U.S. gives all, gets nothing. If the conferees at the Anglo-American meeting this week failed to settle this matter conclusively, Capitol Hill will want to know why.

Drive Against Dulles: When "liberal" Senator Hubert Humphrey (D.-Minn.) this week demanded that Secretary Dulles resign, he was forwarding one of the most prevalent of current Commie lines. Humphrey blamed Dulles for "so many failures" in our foreign policy and said that if Dulles does not resign, the President should ask for his resignation.

Humphrey may have picked up this idea from the *New York Post*, which helped start the "Dulles-must-go" ball rolling in this country. But newsmen in the Capital know that the Kremlin has been hammering out the theme since last week. The transcripts of foreign broadcasts which are supplied to the working press in Washington show that — beginning last week — Russian, Red Chinese, Syrian and Egyptian radio news programs have been busy broadcasting this harsh refrain.

Diplomatic row believes that the Kremlin's anger has been aroused by Dulles' defiance of Soviet threats against Turkey last week. This, it is thought, inspired the anti-Dulles world-wide propaganda campaign. Dulles, in a press interview, "talked tough" — hinting that if the Soviets attacked our ally Turkey, we would retaliate by air directly on Soviet Russia itself. He said that in that case the territory of Russia would not be a "privileged sanctuary" — a phrase recalling the reverence with which the Truman Administration treated Red Chinese territory beyond the Yalu River during the Korean war.

Observers here are watching to see how widely the Communist "Dulles-must-go" line will be taken up in certain sections of our press—and specifically by whom.

Kohler: Raising eyebrows in the Capital this week is the story of the Mutual Broadcasting System's censorship, last Sunday, of a broadcast by Herbert V. Kohler, President of the Kohler plumbing goods company. Kohler appeared on the Manion Forum of Opinion, a program regularly carried by Mutual, to tell the story of the UAW's three-year-old strike against his company. The series of incidents leading to cancellation of the broadcast (Mutual played music instead) went like this:

- When Dean Clarence Manion informed the network that Kohler was to appear, he was told that he would have to give "equal time" to UAW boss Walter Reuther; Manion replied that if Reuther requested equal time, he could appear, but only under the same conditions as did Kohler — *i.e.*, with opening and closing commentary by Manion himself.
- When Mutual officials saw the Kohler script, which gave a full account of the tactics employed by Reuther & Co., they decided that the program could not go on at all.
- Asked to identify those portions of the talk which they found distasteful (presumably because of libel), the Mutual officials indicated certain phrases they wanted struck out. These concerned acts of violence by UAW hirelings that have been thoroughly documented and discussed — with no hint of libel action by anyone involved — for the last three years. Mutual then added that Kohler should also indemnify the network against possible damages.
- Manion and Kohler indicated a willingness either to delete or to indemnify, but not both. At this point negotiations stopped and the network decreed that the broadcast would not go on. A number of independent stations which carry the Manion broadcast went ahead with the broadcast, in spite of the attempted censorship.

The whole incident — say observers in the Capital — suggests the menace of Big Labor to freedom of discussion over the airwaves.

Copies of the suppressed broadcast — uncensored — may be obtained for ten cents apiece, from the Manion Forum of Opinion, St. Joseph Bank Building, South Bend, Indiana.

Red Front: Circulating in the Capital this week has been a document which even veteran probers of the Communist apparatus term "amazing." It is a large four-page broadsheet issued by the Georgia Commission on Education (headed by Governor Marvin Griffin), concerning the "Highlander Folk School," in Monteagle, Tennessee. The publication recounts a meeting, over the 1957 Labor Day weekend, of an "inter-racial seminar" attended by "the leaders of every major race incident in the South, since the Supreme Court decision [on school segregation]."

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The names of many prominent figures in attendance are given, as are the Communist front affiliations of the leading spirits of the "Folk School." Listings are given, for example, for James Dombrowski (45 affiliations), John B. Thompson (36 affiliations), Donald I. West (18 affiliations) and Aubrey Williams (43 affiliations). (The House Un-American Activities Committee and the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee also have substantial, but less numerous, listings for these four individuals.)

Most startling aspect of the document, however, are the numerous photographs of the seminar in operation. One picture, for example, shows the Reverend Martin Luther King seated in a gathering with Williams and Abner W. Berry. Berry is a member of the Central Committee of the Communist party and writes regularly for the *Daily Worker*.

"Those who conducted this Labor Day session at Highlander," states the document, "interspersed their lectures and discussions with appeals to those present to secure new memberships for the NAACP and especially urged that teachers join and support the NAACP."

Wrote *Daily Worker* columnist Berry of this meeting: ". . . it is hopeful that while there is a Governor Faubus in Little Rock, there is a Highlander School in Tennessee."

Copies of the report on this gathering may be obtained from the Georgia Commission on Education, 220 Agriculture Building, 19 Hunter Street, S.W., Atlanta 3, Ga.

No More Coattails: Working organization Republicans, who must win elections in the Congressional Districts, are carefully staking out positions distinct from those of the Administration. The most portentous developments in this direction to date have been the recent utterances of Congressman Richard M. Simpson (R.-Pa.), the powerful and respected chairman of the Republican Congressional Committee. In a speech in Chicago, October 17, Simpson declared that a tax cut in 1958 is imperative for the maintenance of a sound economy. "In the years that I have served as a member of the House Ways and Means committee," Simpson said, "it has been demonstrated that a tax cut starts a flow of capital into areas where jobs are created and private enterprise flourishes. This has been the case since the 1920's with the exception of the war years, and will be the case again when Congress reduces the present tax burden, as it must do."

Three days later, speaking before the New Mexico Federation of Republican Women, Simpson declared that the "coattail theory of electing candidates to Congress" is "dead," and stated that "it is up to the candidates for Congress within the ranks of the Republican party to make known their dissents and to work to change or eliminate undesirable policies when elected."

Third Party: If the two major political parties persist in ignoring "the true majority sentiment in the pursuit of minority bloc votes," says former Governor Allan Shivers of Texas, "there is going to be a third party." Shivers is a conservative Democrat, who led his party in Texas to the support of Eisenhower in 1952. Early this week, speaking to the American Bakers' Association in Chicago, he denounced both major parties.

"If this [a third party] happens," he said, "I hope it will be a genuine party, based upon genuine principles of government rather than upon angry reaction to a single issue." Shivers then made it clear that he is convinced a majority of Americans are conservatives and want a conservative Government. "But I am likewise convinced that, for reasons of political expediency, our two major parties no longer consider majority sentiment as much as they do key minority sentiment strategically placed." Therefore, he added, "from the immediate, literal and realistic point of view, the true conservative today is a man without a party."

Shivers sees the resolution of this dilemma in party realignment, with which, he believes, "we could have a national election that would be more than a popularity contest."

Kennedy the Liberal: Senator John F. Kennedy (D.-Mass.), beginning to sprint for the Democratic Presidential nomination in 1960, is frequently pictured as a "moderate" or "conservative" by his numerous fuglemen in the press. Political analysts appraising his record, however, declare that Kennedy is one of the most extreme "liberals" in the Senate, and that his "moderate" ballyhoo is the beginning of a Trojan horse movement to disarm Democratic conservatives.

These critics point out that in recent weeks Kennedy has made speeches proposing new programs of foreign aid to "underdeveloped nations" and Federal aid to education. Before the 30th annual meeting of the Economic Club of Chicago, Kennedy propounded the thesis that "the free world can't remain half free and half poor." (Such a doctrine of international levelling, it is pointed out, far surpasses in its giveaway potential the aims of our foreign aid programs to date.)

On the day following his Chicago address, before the 90th Convention of the Maryland State Teachers Association, meeting in Baltimore, Kennedy called for a program of Federal aid to education, and also put himself on record in favor of every other proposal he knew the teachers favored.

These, say observers, are not the utterances of a "conservative" candidate. As further evidence, Kennedy's critics cite the voting scoresheet issued recently by the far left-wing Americans for Democratic Action. In a comprehensive examination of voting records during the last session of Congress, *ADA World* for September, 1957, tested the votes of all Senators on 12 key measures. Kennedy rated a "plus" (meaning ADA approval) on ten of these measures, "minus" on only two. This placed him slightly to the left of "liberal" Wayne Morse, who flunked the ADA test on three bills, and far to the left of his "liberal" Republican colleague from Massachusetts, Senator Saltonstall, who registered five "pluses" and seven "minuses."

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During the 1956 session, it is recalled, Kennedy won a similar high rating from ADA. The analysts, however, note some significant differences. In his bid for the Presidential nomination, Kennedy is angling for the support of Southern Democrats, as well as the backing of Northern labor bosses and other "liberal" elements. This year, the young Massachusetts hopeful had to choose up sides in the torrid "civil rights" dispute. His two ADA "minuses" were votes in favor of the Southerners: one to send the "civil rights" bill to the Judiciary committee, and another in favor of the "jury trial" amendment.

Now the question is: which way will Kennedy jump in the next session? It is expected that then, with the introduction of tougher "civil rights" bills, the division in the Democratic party will be even wider — and even more cruel to Presidential aspirants. The political audience in Washington anticipates that Senator Kennedy will indeed have to put on a fascinating performance when the Senators next cast their votes on "civil rights" measures.

Hungary: College students throughout the United States will participate in a "Student's Salute to Hungary," November 2, commemorating the Hungarian uprising — led by students — of a year ago. Simple memorial exercises are to be conducted during the half-time periods of a number of college football games, consisting of a short period of silence, a rifle salute, and the sounding of taps. Columbia and Cornell, meeting at Ithaca, will lead the list of colleges participating in the program. Others include the University of Virginia, Ohio University, Furman University, the University of Florida, and the University of Cincinnati.

The Hungarian salute sprang from a suggestion circulated among the Nation's colleges early this month by The Christianform, a patriotic anti-Communist organization headed by Major Nicholas Nonnenmacher. Further information about the salute may be obtained from The Christianform, 2200 R St., N.W., Washington 8, D. C.

Book Event: *Atlas Shrugged*, by Ayn Rand; Random House; 1168 pp.; $6.95.

Ayn Rand, author of *The Fountainhead*, here offers an even more massive work of libertarian fiction. Projecting current political trends a few years into the future, she introduces us to a world where collectivism achieves its final catastrophe: the "looters," the non-producers, reach the last desperate pitch of economic levelling, and succeed in driving the productive members of society into a "strike." The great entrepreneurs, the key men who devote their lives to their businesses and make the economy run, vanish into a private retreat. The "motor of the world" shudders to a stop, and industrial society collapses.

Although such a "strike" may never occur, Miss Rand's apocalyptic vision should be taken as serious prophecy. The "looters" of *Atlas Shrugged* — their minds incapable of the simplest feat of rational analysis — are helpless to save themselves from the enveloping holocaust. Like doomed animals struggling in a bed of quicksand, they thrust themselves, by their very wallowings, into disaster. The "looters" seem horrible beyond the possibility of human attainment; yet their real horror is that, after all, they are the logical end product of the ideas that prevail among the humanitarian "intellectuals" who seek to control the destiny of the United States. Miss Rand has merely disentangled their ideas from doctrines carried over from the free enterprise tradition, and reduced them to the envious parasitism that is their real essence.

Miss Rand's chief virtue is to see, and to emphasize, that the collectivist failure is a failure of the intellect. Her book is an overwhelming indictment of those who use their minds to destroy thought, and devote their energies to the negation of all productive activity.

Bound Volumes for 1957 — indexed — may now be ordered for March delivery. Regular price, $15; pre-publication price, accepted until December 31, $7.50 each. Bound, indexed volumes for 1955 and 1956 are available at $15. None available for previous years.

Erratum: Owing to a proofreading error, the HUMAN EVENTS Article Section for October 19, 1957 stated that the Reed-Dirksen Amendment would "limit the Federal income tax to a minimum of 25 per cent."

The sentence in question should have read: "One proposal for accomplishing this job is the Reed-Dirksen Amendment, which would limit the Federal income tax to a maximum of 25 per cent."

LETTERS FROM

TAYLOR CALDWELL, Novelist: "Since an unknown friend, and I do mean friend, subscribed for a few issues of HUMAN EVENTS for me, I have eagerly awaited its arrival every week. The man or woman who does not subscribe to HUMAN EVENTS is only half literate about the world today."

ANTHONY KUBEK, Professor of Political Science, Slippery Rock (Pa.) State Teachers College: "HUMAN EVENTS has helped me immensely in keeping the record straight before my students. I consider it one of the finest patriotic publications of our country."

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FRANK C. HANIGHEN, *Editor and Publisher*
JAMES L. WICK, *Executive Publisher*
Contributing Editors: FRANK CHODOROV, M. STANTON EVANS

HUMAN EVENTS, 1835 K Street, N.W., Washington 6, D. C., is a weekly newsletter reporting from Washington on politics, business, labor and taxes. It was founded in 1944 by Frank C. Hanighen. Published usually in two sections: a 4-page news section and a 4-page article section. Entered as second class matter at Washington, D. C. Copyright 1957.

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Vol. XIV, No. 43 HUMAN EVENTS October 26, 1957

Article Section *Printed in Two Sections*

MORE POWER TO THE NIGHTSTICK

The Cause and Cure of Juvenile Delinquency

THE LIBRARY WISCONSIN STATE COLLEGE RIVER FALLS, WISCONSIN

By PATROLMAN X

The murder last summer of a boy who got in the way of a gang fight intensified public interest in the continuing problem of juvenile delinquency. A cry went up in New York, where the incident occurred and where the problem is acute, for more policemen to suppress the young hoodlums. To get a closer look at the growing ferment over juvenile crime in the Nation's largest city, HUMAN EVENTS went to a practicing policeman, rather than a theoretician. "Patrolman X" has been on the New York police force for over 15 years, as a patrolman, a detective and a lieutenant in charge of a youth squad.

MORE COPS will not stop juvenile delinquency. A policeman cannot prevent criminal acts. He is not supposed to. The best he can do is to catch the criminal and turn him over to the court, with evidence that he hopes will stand up. Punishment or correction must be handed down by the court. If the court does not see fit to acknowledge crime as crime, the effectiveness of police work is diminished. In New York there is a tendency among judges to look upon criminal acts by juveniles as something less than crime. So long as they do, the policeman is an ineffective instrument for law and order.

Let me give you an example. A cop catches a young fellow in the commission of a crime — burglary, assault with a dangerous weapon or what-not. There is no question of fact involved. The boy has been caught red-handed. He does not resist arrest because he knows that the policeman cannot use force on him unless he does resist, and there must be clear evidence of resistance or the cop will find himself in trouble.

The boy is booked. He answers all the usual questions with a contemptuous smile on his face. He shows no sense of guilt but rather glories in the attention he has attracted. At some point in the questioning he will inform the desk man that "you can't do nothin' but J.A.B. me." The boy knows the law. He knows that the report will reach the Juvenile Aid Board, where there will be an inclination to excuse the crime on "psychological" grounds and to let the criminal off easy. The policeman expects to pick the same boy up in the commission of another crime, perhaps a more serious one, in the future. The chances are about one out of four that he will.

Or, suppose the case comes to court. The policeman presents the facts in the case, the reason for arrest. Likely as not, the judge will read the policeman a lecture, the gist of which is that he should not have arrested the boy but should have taken him home and given the parents instruction on how to bring up a child. At any rate, the most the policeman can expect of the judge — unless the crime is murder or something near it — is a probationary sentence; and sometimes the boy is committed into the custody of the parents, who are supposed to be the cause of the boy's delinquency.

THESE THINGS have happened to me. Every policeman who has had experience with juvenile delinquents (and which one hasn't?) will report similar incidents. I recall the case

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of a boy who was brought in on the only charge that could hold against him (though we knew he was a bad character generally) — that of violating the Sullivan Act. He had a loaded gun in his possession. The judge admonished him as to his duty to society and dismissed the case.

Crime cannot be prevented. It can be discouraged. The way to discourage crime is let it be known that punishment is sure to follow. It is not the *severity* of punishment that discourages criminal acts but the *certainty* of it. Every juvenile who has come into contact with the law, however, knows that arrest does not mean punishment and that he has better than an even chance of getting off with nothing more than a barrage of words. He passes the information on to other juveniles bent on making trouble. The policeman becomes a laughingstock.

The effect of this condition is to lessen the interest of the policeman in suppressing juvenile delinquency. Whenever possible he avoids coming in contact with it. He makes arrests only when he has no other recourse. Even then he must be careful of the way he handles the wrongdoer, because if a citizen should complain that he was too rough in handling the boy he may find himself brought up on charges.

You may remember that last summer, when the newspapers raised a howl about juvenile delinquency because an innocent boy was murdered, the Commissioner sent 500 rookies into a particularly bad district and suddenly the district became quiet and orderly. These rookies were equipped with big sticks and instructed to use them if necessary. It makes a difference. No kid is so tough but a good whack on the backside will bring him in line.

The understandable reluctance of the police to tangle with juvenile delinquency may be one of the reasons for its increase. A city official recently stated that only three per cent of the juvenile population goes bad. That was supposed to be a reassuring statistic. The fact is that if three per cent of the adult population engaged in crime, no more vicious than that committed by the kids, the country would be in a chaotic condition. No police force could cope with it.

As I SAID, the policeman's job is not to find the cause and cure of crime, but to catch the criminal. Nevertheless, many on the force are fathers and as such are very much concerned about the spread of juvenile delinquency. They talk about it in the station houses. And they often come up with comments that differ from prevailing ideas about juvenile crime, based on their experience and first-hand observation.

The older men particularly mention the fact that delinquency in New York is most prevalent in two different and seemingly opposite districts: where the upper-middle class live and where there are many families on relief. Incidentally, these observers do not put much stock in the notion that delinquency is a special product of "broken" homes. The records do not support that theory. Scalawags seem to come from every segment of society. But, in New York City, at least, the upper-middle class and those living on relief make the greatest contributions to the army of delinquents.

Why should the upper-middle class spawn criminal behavior? Because, for one thing, these are the parents who pride themselves on being modern and "progressive," who have a smattering of psychology, and insist on bringing up their children accordingly. They believe in giving their children free rein, in catering to their notions, in removing all restraints. Many of these parents are among the "new rich," determined to give their kids everything they lacked in their own childhood. These overindulged children have no chores to do, no line to toe, and boredom is the inevitable consequence. The juvenile delinquent is always bored.

As for delinquency among families on relief, policemen in their private conversations are most outspoken about it. They note, especially the older ones, that delinquency took a sharp turn upward when Mayor LaGuardia invited Negroes to migrate to New York from the

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South and when Congressman Marcantonio engineered the immigration of many Puerto Ricans. Gangsterism draws many recruits from these elements.

This is a matter of fact, not of prejudice. Very few policemen (most of whom are second- and third-generation Americans themselves) will claim that there is anything inherently bad in Negroes or Puerto Ricans. What they point out is that most of these immigrants were attracted to New York, not by the opportunities for employment it afforded, but by the prospect of getting on its relief rolls. Unlike immigrants of the past, who came here to work and early learned to depend on themselves, the immigrants of the 1930's and 1940's were told that they would be taken care of if they found they could not take care of themselves.

They live in subsidized homes, many in public housing projects, and wait for their relief checks. Their "leaders" — politicians, of course — teach them all about the art of getting and staying on the relief rolls, and they easily adjust their lives to this source of income. Having time on their hands, they seek diversion in drinking and in having large families: the larger the family the more the income. What jobs they do pick up only temporarily interfere with the regular routine of subsidized laziness.

Children growing up in an environment such as this are not likely to learn any moral values. Family conversation centers largely in the problem of "getting by," regardless of means. The quarters are crowded and squalid, privacy is unknown and an immoral outlook is an inevitable consequence. Like the children of the "new rich" — but for an entirely different reason — the relief-bred children grow bored with their home environment and seek escape in the excitement of gangsterism.

Sometimes it is said that if the parents were required to pay for the damage done by their delinquent children they would do their duty as parents. Maybe that is a good idea. But how can you collect from parents living on relief?

TALK OF juvenile delinquency very often brings up the subject of "progressive education." Policemen think there is a cause and effect relationship between the two. Whether this is so or not, it is a matter of experience that delinquency increased alongside of this new educational system. A policeman can observe, through his own children, the difference between this modern system and the one he went through. In his time, discipline was the first order of business in school — even if the hickory stick was the method of getting it — and respect for authority was expected and given; today, he notices, the school seems to encourage free-wheeling and disrespect. Certainly, the drilling in moral precepts and behavior which characterized pre-progressive schooling is gone, and if the parents do not supply this lack the child will grow up without any code of behavior to guide him.

The odd thing about this is that in the gangs there is a strict code of behavior and members are expected to live up to it or get out. It is a twisted and anti-social code, but it is enforced and adhered to. Does this mean that the boys who belong crave some influence that will guide their behavior? Could it be that what they crave and do not get in school, or at home, they find in the gang?

Another feature of modern education that often comes up in discussion is the emphasis on "social adjustment," rather than on individual achievement. Well, you find perfect adjustment in the gang — complete submission to rules of what they call the "peer group." Is that what the modern educationists want? I am told that some psychologists and educationists are changing their views on this subject and are stressing the need of bringing out the potential in the individual child, regardless of the group. But the harm has been done, and a change in the direction of education cannot be made overnight. A new set of teachers will have to be trained and the "progressives" will have to be weeded out.

Then, again, the law requiring children to continue their schooling after the age of 14

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comes under discussion. The law has no effect on those children who want more education; it is intended for the ones who have no taste or aptitude for learning. They naturally rebel at being forced to attend school, and their rebellion takes the form of joining together outside school in pursuits more to their liking.

A particularly bad part of the law, in my view, is the requirement that working boys over 14 and under 16 go to school for a half-day a week. Obviously, they have no interest in what the school is trying to give them during that half day and resent this forced attendance. Since they cannot be expelled — which is what they would like — they pass the time by disrupting classroom procedure. If there is an inclination toward delinquency in the younger students, these half-day-a-week scholars will be sure to bring it out.

AS FOR BASIC solutions of the problem of delinquency, we hear a lot about something called "occupational therapy"—which means keeping the boys busy. That, in practice, means providing them with playgrounds. Well, we have some playgrounds; what good do they do? There is the well-known case of the million dollar playground at St. Mary's Park. The day after it opened the hoodlums invaded it and caused damage that cost $30,000 to repair. The place, like other playgrounds, has to be policed regularly, not only to prevent vandalism but also to stop fights between rival gangs trying to take exclusive possession.

If "occupational therapy" is a cure for delinquency, why not let the boys go to work, if they wish, as soon as they reach the age of 14? And without requiring the employer to go through the red tape of arranging for working permits. A job not only keeps a boy busy and out of mischief, but also puts on him responsibility and subjects him to a code of civilized behavior. Earning money does more to make a man out of a boy than playing organized games.

It seems to me, finally, that the basic reason for juvenile delinquency is the lack of training in moral principles in our schools and in our homes. A boy who has never been taught the difference between right and wrong and therefore has no respect for authority is well-prepared for lawlessness. If he learns from his parents that the principle aim of life is to "get by," no matter how, he won't care very much about how he "gets by." Or, if he gets the idea, at home or at school, that whatever is wrong with him can be blamed on society, not himself, his behavior will be shaped accordingly.

One of the arguments advanced for leniency toward young hoodlums is the lack of correctional institutions. That is true in New York, where the judges have no place to send all the boys who commit crimes. Work camps have been suggested and some are being built. These will undoubtedly help to relieve the situation, for they will take the hoodlums out of circulation, and perhaps they may straighten out some of them. But how many of these places are necessary to care for three per cent of the juvenile population?

The root cause of juvenile delinquency is the lack of training, from birth, in plain morality. The schools do not provide it, and the modern parent is too often inclined to consider moral training an antiquated notion.

HUMAN EVENTS was founded in 1944 by Frank C. Hanighen. It is published weekly at 1835 K Street, N.W., Washington 6, D. C. and reports from Washington on politics, business, labor and taxes. It is usually published in two parts: a 4-page news section and a 4-page article. $10 per year.

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